The Niagara Advance
www.niagaraadvance.ca
Thursday, March 29, 2012

Buses roll in NOTL

PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

NOTL Transit held its ceremonial launch Tuesday from the Anderson Lane community centre. The service officially begins Monday morning, and will be free for the first week. For more, please see pages 2 and 3.

Publisher's column

New website offers dynamic view of NOTL

Tim Dundas
Publisher
Niagara Advance

Wednesday marked the launch of our new website at the Niagara Advance and all of the Niagara Community Newspapers, marking our firm commitment online and in print to the residents of the communities we serve.

If you haven't visited us yet this week, please check out our new look at www.niagaraadvance.ca

Aside from the great look and interactive feel of the new site, you will find comprehensive coverage of issues important to our communities, including council coverage, stories about the interesting people who call Niagara-on-the-Lake home, minor sports and relevant issues, such as this week's launch of the town's inaugural transit system.

The site offers an improved look and feel on what you're used to with the Advance's website, as well as providing all the local news and sports about NOTL and its residents.

You can take part in our exclusive UR community, a meeting place where you can comment on, discuss, share and more.

The Advance's new website is user friendly and intuitive. Once you sign up for the UR experience, you can share your own stories, photos and videos about items important to NOTL and Niagara.

Get involved in active discussion about local issues. Thousands of people visit our online newspaper each month and that number has grown substantially since we launched the new site. Please feel free to join our growing number of readers online.

You can also read our entire paper as well as all of the Niagara Community Newspapers online in the eeditions section.

The new website looks great on a tablet device as well as smartphones and has been designed from the top down to be an awesome experience looking for news in our community.

I invite you to visit us online at www.niagaraadvance.ca. We'd like to know what you think so please click on the "Give us your opinion" feedback link and tell us what you think of the site, and what we can do to remain your community newspapers. Please tweet your comment to @NiagaraAdvance or leave one on our Facebook page.

Tim Dundas is publisher of the Niagara Community Newspapers digital and Print editions including West Niagara News, the Thorold Edition, the Fort Erie Times, Fort Erie Shopping News, The Niagara Advance, The St. Catharines Shopping News, Welland Shopping News and Niagara Falls Shopping News.

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PENNY COLES NIAGARA ADVANCE

It was a proud moment for Matthew Mole of Niagara Classic Transport, NOTL town councillor Gary Zalepa, David Mole, president of NCT, Lord Mayor Dave Eke, Councillor Martin Mazza, Regional Councillor Dave Lepp and Regional Chair Gary Burroughs as the ribbon is cut for the inaugura launch of NOTL's public transit system at the town's community centre Tuesday.

PerryQuinn
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Homes for Every Stage of Your Life

Carriage Trade Homes in Niagara

Did you know sales of existing homes in Canada climbed 1.4% in February from January, according to the Canadian Real Estate Association? Sales were up 8.6% on a year-over-year basis. The national average home price rose 2% on a year-over-year basis in February, while the number newly listed homes advanced 1.9% month-over-month. Housing activity has been boosted by record low mortgage rates.

Classic Appeal

75 Mary Street $598,000

This well-kept 2-storey has a double attached garage, hardwood flooring, updated windows, new roof shingles. Wood-panelled sunroom/lounge with gas fireplace overlooks mature gardens. Successful B&B in the past.

Desirable 'Greystone' Home

222 Ricardo Street #10 $1,150,000

This is a rare opportunity to acquire property in this exclusive enclave. Exceptional features include an upgraded kitchen, separate guest suite, master walk-out to private garden, and elevator. Furnishings, artwork, linens and kitchen accessories included.

Elegant Rooms, Spacious Suites

58 Johnson Street $1,375,000

This classic circa 1833 house features 4 wood-burning fireplaces, 4 generously-sized bedrooms, all with en suites. Large kitchen/family room has top-of-the-line appliances. Currently a B&B.

In the Style of a Country Home

254 Queen Street $1,085,000

Very comfortable lodgings in the middle of town. Neatly tucked away, with the feel of a spacious English cottage, this 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom home features vaulted ceilings, wood beams, loft.

Superb Waterfront Property

10 Firelane 6A $994,000

Enjoy sunsets from in the outdoor covered living space with built-in gas BBQ! Updates include attached guest suite with kitchen and bath; fabulous main kitchen; outstanding great room; master with ensuite, and more.

Chautauqua Cottage

5 Luther Avenue $349,000

Extensive renovation has enhanced the character of this cottage. Expansive main floor includes new kitchen with Viking gas range. All new windows, FAG/HE furnace, flooring, powder room.

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CARRIAGE TRADE™

Buses set to roll in town

Regular service of NOTL Transit begins Monday morning at the Court House.

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

It's a small service for a small municipality, but it's a start.

Niagara-on-the-Lake residents got a sneak peak at their public transit service Tuesday morning, although it won't officially begin delivering customers around town until Monday.

And while the service is limited, everything possible is being done to make sure it provides a pleasurable experience, Lord Mayor Dave Eke told a crowd of about 70 well-wishers gathered for the ceremonial launch at the community centre.

Niagara Classic Transport, a local family business providing limousine service, is partnering with the town to offer buses which will connect the Old Town through Virgil to Niagara College's Glendale campus. The loop begins at 7:45 a.m. at the Queen Street Court House, running Monday to Saturday, and reaching Glendale in 30 minutes.

It will also provide a loop from the Fort George tour bus parking lot to the Court House for tourists, running mid-May to mid-October.

The service will cost about $466,000 a year, said Eke, but $3 rider fares and a gas tax rebate from the province should bring that down to about $62,000, or $4 per taxpayer.

"I don't know of any municipal transit system that breaks even," he said, but with advertising revenue from the business directory displayed on a screen inside buses, and increased ridership, he envisions the town could get there before too long.

The inaugural run of one of the 18-passenger buses, filled with town representatives and residents curious about the service, made a 10-minute loop from the Anderson Lane community centre through the Old Town and back. On it were sisters Fumiko Nishimura and Gloria Oshimo, who live on Nassau Street in the Old Town.

They look forward to using the bus to shop in Virgil, and also expect to try the Glendale connection to St. Catharines. They were hoping a bus might come closer to their home, but a walk to the community centre stop is doable for them, said Oshimo.

Margaret Teare on Niagara Street was also at the opening Tuesday, and traveled the Old Town route out of curiosity.

The Quick Response code on bus stop signs around town can be scanned with a smart phone and linked to the town's website for information about routes and times.

She and her husband were huge supporters when town officials first began making plans for public transit, she said, and were at the launch primarily to support a system they believe is badly needed.

But they still drive, said Teare, and will be more likely to use the buses if Go Transit sets up a station at Glendale that will take them to Toronto.

"We see this as a really good first step," she said.

The service that begins Monday, free to the community for the first week, is just the first phase, although it's too soon to know what phase two might look like—it will be designed by the residents who use the system, Eke said.

On the bus stop signs at nearly 40 locations between the Court House on Queen Street and the Glendale campus of Niagara College, where connections can be made to buses from St. Catharines, Welland and Niagara Falls, residents with a smart phone can scan a quick response code that will take them to the town's website for route information.

By the end of April, an app will be available for iPhones that will also provide information about exactly where the bus is that customers are waiting for, and its estimated time of arrival at the bus stop.

David Mole, president of Niagara Classic Transport, says the company is still running a community shuttle, and though it is completely separate from the public system, will help connect residents who live off the bus route.

For more information about routes and times visit www.notl.org or call 905-468-3278, ext. 270.

Gloria Oshimo and Fumiko Nishimura take their first ride on the town's public transit system through the Old Town Tuesday. Behind them is Marci Weston of the town's public works department, one of the town staff who has worked to put together the system in about three months, once it was approved by council.

NOTL Transit bus driver Brian Andres, with help from Pat Weston, demonstrates the ease with which those in wheelchairs can use NOTL's transit system. There is room on each bus for two wheelchairs or scooters, and door-to-door service is available for those who qualify.

Top Ten Reasons to move to The Village

(Watch this space every week for more reasons to be unveiled.)

9. It's time to trade in your B & B for a little R & R.
10. You'd rather be driving a golf cart than your John Deere lawn tractor.

Brookfield Homes

The Village NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

The Village Presentation Centre 905.468.0050
111D Garrison Village Drive (beside Shoppers Drug Mart)

www.TheVillageTND.com

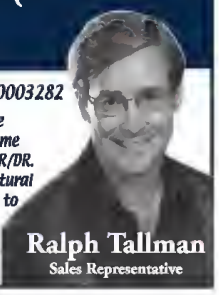
PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

Grower Ray Duc checks the buds on apricot trees, which have escaped damage from the temperature drop Monday evening and early Tuesday morning.

Niagara-on-the-Lake Realty

443 Nassau St. #15 $215,900 • MLS N30003282

Lovely end unit in the Matthew's Glen Townhome Condo. Bright, Spacious LR/DR. Laundry in Kit, lots of natural light. Walking distance to Queen St. shops.



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Ralph Tallman
Sales Representative

AEG LIVE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON A SUMMER
MUSIC EVENT TO TAKE PLACE AT
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JUNE 30TH • 2012

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11•4PM – 6PM

SIMPSON ROOM
AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
14 ANDERSON LANE
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ON

Growers dodge the bullet – this time – as temperatures drop

Early warm spell makes farmers nervous—they have about six more weeks to worry about frost damage

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Warnings of a cold snap earlier this week caused concern of crop damage to local growers—tender fruit and grape vines were at risk.

But other than damage to ornamental trees in Queenston, where temperatures dropped to minus seven Celsius early Tuesday morning, grower Ray Duc said he hadn't heard of any crop loss.

While record-high temperatures accompanied an early spring and the rest of us enjoyed the warm spell, the temperature drop that followed put fear in the hearts of local growers, who have been worried about potential devastation to tender fruit trees and vines.

But throughout most of the town the weather only dropped to minus three or four Celsius Monday night and Tuesday morning, leaving crops apparently unharmed—at least for now.

Duc, with grapes and tender fruit, says the fear of frost remains until mid-May, and there is usually at least one snow fall in early April.

The weather forecast for Monday night had him nervous—his apricot trees have survived minus three Celsius after a warm spell, but if it gets much colder than that, he would expect to see some damage, he said.

Apricots and plums are most at risk to frost, he says, and it can be days after a cold spell until the damage is evident.

But this time, by Tuesday morning, he knew his trees had been spared. The weather forecast for the rest of this week is for rain and higher temperatures—but he says he can't stop worrying about frost just yet.

While he didn't need to turn on his wind machines, some growers did, he said. The blades can only raise temperatures about five degrees, but some years, that's enough to preserve the crop.

John Thwaites, with farms on Lakeshore Road, says the buds on his trees and vines were not far enough along to suffer damage by this week's cold, although he has been keeping a close eye on them.

The flip side to the early spring, says Duc, is that without a damaging frost, the warm weather will mean a longer growing season, and could mean the best harvest yet—especially for red grapes such as Cabernet, which will be sweeter than usual.

Tender fruit, he said, could ripen as much as a month earlier than normal—he wouldn't be surprised to have apricots ready to pick in June.

Niagara on-the-Lake Realty
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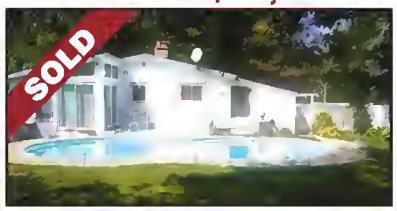
343 REGENT STREET $948,000

A gracious Victorian home (circa 1889) in the heart of the old town retaining all the charming details of the period updated with quality new kitchen and bathrooms. Features include a comfortable upgraded guest cottage, inground pool and hot tub all set in a beautifully landscaped double sized lot. MLS# N30002343 Viviane Elltoft and Thomas Elltoft.

1 CIRCLE STREET $339,000



Preserved mid century home with an appealing open concept feel including vaulted ceilings with wood beams and large picture window. Home is situated on good sized lot in desirable Chautauqua. MLS 20137950. Kim Elltoft or Tom Elltoft.

558 NIAGARA BOULEVARD $699,000

Waterviews! One of the original "Chautauqua" cottages known as The Thomas Thompson Cottage – Circa 1887 loaded with charm. Beautiful original pine floors, original windows, trim, and hardware. Features three enclosed porches, four bedrooms, two baths; private rear garden; the house needs work but would be money well spent. Just waiting for someone to make it their own! MLS N30003080. Victoria Bolduc.

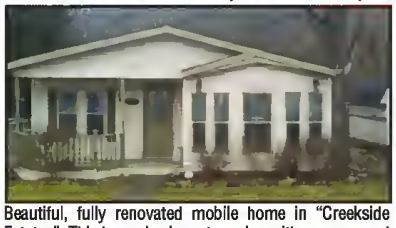
29 ROBERTSON ROAD $239,000

Comfortable 2-bedroom townhouse in Niagara-on-the-Green. Original owners. Perfectly maintained. MLS#N30002799. Doug Snider

970 FOUR MILE CREEK RD. $225,000

Great potential with almost 2 acres (1.88) and 2 driveways. Brick bungalow with new shingles and new furnace, needing some TLC. Features pond at rear of property and is a central location between Virgil and St. Davids. MLS N30000032. Tom Elltoft and Kim Elltoft.

23 FOUR MILE CREEK ROAD, UNIT 27 $109,900



Beautiful, fully renovated mobile home in "Creekside Estates". This home backs onto ravine with wrap around porch and extra-large deck. Oversized shed (10x12) and TWO parking spots. This is a must see! Cheryl Carmichael.

30 OAK DRIVE $359,000

Lovely Chautauga location, close to lake and park. 1450 Sq ft 3 bedroom, raised bungalow + lower level rec. room, bedroom, 2nd bathroom & potential office/ hobby room. Audrey Wright and Chris Bowron.

16 BROCK STREET $729,000

Quality built by Brookfield homes, this gorgeous 2 storey includes over $50,000.00 in upgrades. Just move in and enjoy! Minutes to old town Niagara on the lake and within walking distance to shoppers, banking, restaurants, farmers market and wineries! MLS# N20126175. Audrey Wright and Chris Bowron.

Broker, Christopher Bowron***	905-468-2269	Randall Armstrong**	905-651-2977	Thomas Elltoft*	905-380-8012
Victoria Bolduc*	905-941-3726	Audrey Wright*	289-241-0212	Cheryl Carmichael*	905-941-0276
Bonnie Grimm*	905-468-1256	Doug Snider**	905-329-0983	Sarah Gleddie*	905-685-2458
Ralph Tallman*	905-468-2973	Trish Badham*	905-262-1876		
Kim Elltoft*	905-380-8011	Viviane Elltoft*	905-468-2142		

*** Broker of Record ** Broker * Sales Representative

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opinion page

Niagara Advance www.niagaraadvance.ca
P.O. Box 430 • Virgil, Ontario L0S 1T0 • 905–468–3283 • Fax 905–468–3137

TIM DUNDAS, Publisher 905–357–2440 ext. 304
tdundas@niagaracommunitynewspapers.com

PENNY COLES, 905–468–3283 ext. 103
editor@niagaraadvance.com

MYRA ROBERTSON, Sales Manager 905–871–3100 ext. 202
mrobertson@forterietimes.com

our editorial

New bus service is a great start

On Monday morning, Niagara-on-the-Lake's brand new bus service will be rolling into town to connect riders from Old Town to Virgil and Niagara College's Glendale campus.

It will be a significant moment for the town when the first bus begins its route early in the morning.

The first run of the day will signify that NOTL finally has its own transit service —many residents would agree it is a service that has been needed in the community for a long time.

The bus service will make it a little easier for people who don' t have access to their own vehicles to travel to the grocery store, to shop in Old Town and to run their weekly errands without paying for expensive taxis or relying on others.

The new route also provides individuals with access to health care, employment opportunities, shopping and entertainment in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Welland.

As with any new service, there will likely be a few glitches that will need to be worked out —the location of bus stops might not be convenient for every one and the new route doesn't reach all parts of the town.

It's important to remember the service is a start. Although the routes are limited, there is the potential for a larger transit service that is easy to use, inexpensive and helpful for every resident who depends on public transportation.

Because it is in its infancy, it's important that it be used regularly to show Town councillors and the rest of the Niagara region that it is a vital service that is here to stay.

Let's hope residents find it useful and take advantage of a great deal at $3 a ride.

Defenders of the Town

PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

When Ravine Vineyard opened in 2009, it was almost as much about history as it was wine, located on the Lowrey family farm that was established in 1867, with an historic St. Davids house as its tasting bar and winery and a restaurant in a reproduction of a packing barn that had been relocated from another spot on the property, and then was destroyed by fire before the winery opened. Ravine has captured a quick audience with its premium quality wines and attached deli and bistro, and remains supportive of heritage preservation, thus the contribution to 1812 bicentennial events. Tony Chisholm of the town's 1812 bicentennial committee (standing, centre) presents a Defender of the Town plaque to Paul Harber, chef at Ravine, and Shawn Spiewak, the food and beverage co-ordinator. Enjoying a glass of Ravine's finest are Rick Meleon, Jim Alexander and Lyle Williams, also members of the 1812 committee.

letters to the editor

Let's be sure of power we're giving our police

I wonder if reader Jake Sinka (Niagara Advance, March 15) and others fully realize the implications contained in Bill C 30?

Certainly, the minister responsible for the act, Vic Toews, does not.

When interviewed by the CBC, he said his understanding of the bill is that police can only request information from the ISPs, where they are conducting a specific investigation.

But section 17 of the Protecting Children From Internet Predators Act outlines exceptional circumstances under which any police officer can ask ISP to turn over personal client information.

Further, he said "I certainly would like to see an explanation of that."

Does this sound like he even understands the ramification of this invasive bill? Is everyone out there happy that based on whatever evidence the police may have, under this bill they have the authority to enter your house and seize your computer without a warrant?

This is all about giving police and others greater authority over us. We have seen how the police misused such authority when they arrested more than 1,000 people during the G20 protests, subjected them to indignities and then released them without any charge.

Do we really want to allow them to invade our homes on a whim?

Aren't these the very freedoms people like me served in the military to uphold?

Shame on this government for this over-reaction in the name of protecting our children.

Jeff Powell

Neighbours concerned about Paxton Lane development

St. Davids is exploding.

Great concern is expressed for the 44 townhouse proposal on a tiny historical spot of land on Paxton Lane, St. Davids, which violates our community's integrity, safety and beauty.

The inappropriate density of townhouses reflects the greed of landowners and developers who can only view their own selfish desires.

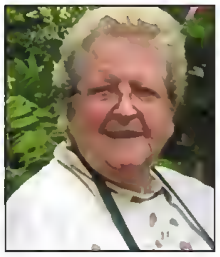
We have generous Settlement of St. Davids (S.O.S.) neighbourhood support and at the information meeting held at the town hall March 19, we welcomed the professional input of Leah Wallace and the intervention of our Lord Mayor Dave Eke (due to our neighbours' outrage) who could hear our fears and concerns for our neighourhood.

I thank those involved in researching information to preserve our natural habitat, safety for our children, pets and residents who will be displaced from safely maneuvering our streets and walkways. The proposed increased traffic through our pristine neighbourhood is dangerous and irresponsible.

May our town councillors and planners study this proposal carefully to enhance our community rather than destroy it.

Norma de Meel

Don't miss Garden of Hope opening celebration



Jean Cochrane
Happy Gardening

The weather has been so wonderful, yet we know we cannot trust it yet.

I commented to a farming friend that I was going to fix up the outside faucets and he thought I was being a bit too early —you are not sure how brave to bet yet, if we lose a lot of plants we only have ourselves to blame for being impatient.

The birds are singing well and a good variety of birds are around.

I had one unusual happening—two large white butterflies with a touch of grey edging on the wings. They never rested while I was watching so hard to get the details so I made sure there was water in the birdbaths and left out fruit slices and there are some flowers around—though I saw my first dandelion today.

I had an uncle who lived in France and he spent the winters in Grasse. He loved butterflies and he took lots of photographs.

He was the one who told me to take note of when certain butterflies visited, as they would return at the same time each day, and they do, but I can't help but think these two were blown off course somewhere.

So, we have lots of blooming spring flower including the forsythia, so that means it is time to put on the crab grass prevention. It's well worth the effort.

Those of us involved in the Daffodil Garden of Hope have really been playing a guessing game but we have decided to make the official opening of the latest garden at the community centre on Friday, March 30 at 11a.m.

So, do all come and join us, there will be Starbucks coffee and goodies, as well as a chance to show support for all those families touched by cancer.

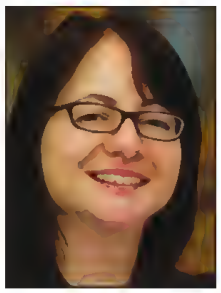
Forsythia is in bloom in most locations now, earlier than other years thanks to the warm weather.

By the way, I am now a happy shopper —we now have Canadian grown garlic in the stores, so be choosy and eat well.

Happy Gardening.

Movies, crafts, book clubs and more at the NOTL Public Library

Meet Cathy Marie Buchanan, author of The Day the Falls Stood Still



Cathy Simpson
@ the library

The library's floors and windows have been cleaned, daffodils and tulips are flowering in the gardens, bicycles and scooters are parked at the front entrance and there's a rush on outdoor projects and gardening books.

Spring is here and there are plenty of activities and ideas budding at your library.

Children ages six and up will enjoy creating a spring craft on April 4 at 6:30 p.m. and can sign up for $2 in advance.

Our photography workshop led by Peter Ferguson, President of the Welland Photography Club, runs for two evenings on May 15 and 17 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Join Peter to learn about camera settings, photography techniques and image viewing and printing. The workshop costs $15 and advanced registration is required.

On April 26 at 7 p.m., Canada's youngest retiree, Derek Foster, shares the investment strategy that made him a millionaire in his 30s. Meet Derek and learn how to plan your retirement. This program is free but we ask you to register in advance.

Library staff Beth Labelle, Laura Tait, Debbie Smith and Cathy Simpson checked out the new NOTL Transit bus, which will make regular stops at the library and community centre.

Would you like to start a book club? Are you in a book club and looking for interesting titles to read? Do you need book sets for your club? The library can help.

Please join us on May 10 at 7 p.m. to discuss what the library can do for you and your book club.

Meryl Streep's portrayal of Margaret Thatcher in The Iron Lady won her the 2011 best actress Oscar. The movie will screen at the library on April 24 at 2:30 p.m. and April 25 at 6:30 p.m. and is rated 14A.

Movies @ Your Library are $2 per person, seating is on a first come, first serve basis and doors open 10 minutes prior to the showing.

The Day the Falls Stood Still author Cathy Marie Buchanan appears at the library on April 28, 7 p.m. to share the history behind her New York Times best seller and to give us a sneak peek at her novel-in-progress Tiny Dancers.

Set in 19th century Paris, her upcoming novel is the story of two sisters whose father's death sets one on a trajectory to the Paris Opera Ballet to become the model for Degas's sculpture Little Dancer Aged 14 and the other into the stage adaption of Emil Zola's novel L'Assommoir and the arms of a dangerous man.

Tickets are $10 in advance and include a complimentary glass of wine. A book sale and signing will follow Cathy's presentation.

We look forward to seeing you @ the library! For more details visit www.notlpubliclibrary.org or phone 905-468-2023.

Introducing Niagara-On-The-Lake TRANSIT

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is pleased to announce the launch of Niagara-on-the-Lake Transit – the first phase of a local transportation service for residents and visitors in our community.

Following is important information for users of this service:

Service Start:	**Monday, April 2, 2012**
Hours of Operation:	**7:45 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.** **Monday – Saturday (Except Statutory Holidays)**
Fare:	**$3.00 Exact Cash Fare One-Way (No Change)** **Children Under 5 Years of Age Ride Free** **Children Under 12 Years of Age Must Be Accompanied By An Adult**

Route: Historic Old Town to Niagara College via Mississagua Street, Niagara Stone Road and Taylor Road – with a connection at the Community Centre.

Please see www.notl.org for detailed route maps, and schedule, fare & stop information.
Hard copies are available at: Town Administration Offices, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil.

All transit vehicles will be wheelchair accessible in accordance with requirements under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). Please see the Town's website for additional accessibility information.

The Heritage Shuttle will continue to operate seasonally under this new service between Fort George Parking Lot and the Courthouse.

Keeping our Community Connected

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SARAH FERGUSON
Niagara Advance

Jean Cochrane, with her dog Brodie, and Shella Hirsch, admire the 8th Daffodil Garden of Hope. They are inviting everyone who has been involved with the garden and anyone who has been touched by cancer, or knows someone who has, to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday morning at 11 a.m. at the community centre. Cochrane and Hirsch say they they hope other service organizations will take over fund-raising for the gardens.

Ribbon–cutting ceremony will open 8th Daffodil Garden of Hope

Garden organizers are hoping other groups will take the reins and help plant future gardens.

Sarah Ferguson
Niagara Advance

It was a cold, rainy day last fall when Sheila Hirsch and Jean Cochrane, with dozens of families and volunteers, planted more than 4,000 daffodil bulbs in front of the community centre.

The fruits of last year's labour will be celebrated Friday when the eighth Daffodil Garden of Hope is officially opened.

"We usually open a garden at the end of April or the beginning of May and here we are getting ready to open this year's garden in March," says Hirsch.

Every garden is special, but this year is a little different because the 'Daffodil Team' that has worked to plant the eight gardens in Niagara-on-the-Lake is taking a break from planting this year.

Hirsch says there is a lot of work involved that people may not realize and she hopes other people will be willing to take the reins for the next daffodil garden.

"I'm 76 now and Jean is 80. It takes a lot of fundraising and we're open to suggestions from people who have got an idea for a garden in a specific area."

Hirsch says she would love to see other people continue the tradition of the gardens around town with her support and advice.

"We've got all these gardens around town. We'd really like to see different organizations, including service clubs, churches and perhaps schools plant a garden on their properties."

It was 2005 when Hirsch was diagnosed with cancer, and that's when she was asked to plant the first daffodil garden.

Since that time, daffodil gardens have been planted in Queenston at the fire hall, the Virgil Sportspark, at the NOTL Hospital, in Simcoe Park, Lowrey Park in St. Davids and both fire halls in Virgil and the Old Town to inspire hope, remember loved ones who have lost their battles with cancer and to raise money to support cancer research.

"I was only supposed to do one garden (the first was in Simcoe Park) and then the hospital asked for one. I never realized it would still be going. We realized we were doing something for those who have been touched by cancer," said Hirsch.

The opening of this garden ceremony is bittersweet for Cochrane because her husband lost his battle to cancer last year.

Despite her loss, Cochrane says she fondly remembers planting last year's garden. "I love the fact that we had everyone from toddlers to older people planting bulbs. The day was incredible."

The gardens have raised a lot of money for the Cancer Society, an important cause because it can affect so many people, she says.

"Cancer doesn't touch you, it knocks you down and stomps all over you."

> **"That's the wonderful thing about daffodils, they keep coming back and multiplying."**
>
> *— Jean Cochrane*

Although it is sad to lose loved ones to cancer, Cochrane says she has many happy memories of planting the gardens.

When the daffodil garden at Queenston was planted, Cochrane says bulbs were distributed to volunteers in Easter baskets. "One little girl kept going back and filling her basket with more bulbs. I think she planted the most that year."

Another year, Cochrane remembers a boy planting bulbs for his grandpa who had passed away from cancer.

He said he was planting them on the edge of the garden so he could see the daffodils he planted for his grandpa when he passed by, Cochrane recalls.

She laughs when she remembers planting the garden in St. Davids. That year, the Cancer Society donated a tent to be used by volunteers.

"It was very windy that day and the tent ended up in someone else's garden."

Cochrane also remembers the very first garden in Simcoe Park that was destroyed one year when a wedding party wanted to take photos. A horse and buggy were driven through the garden and knocked over the daffodils.

But the plants are fighters and grew back the next year, which is why they are the best symbol for someone battling cancer, says Cochrane.

"That's the wonderful thing about daffodils. They keep coming back and multiplying."

The ribbon cutting ceremony Friday will begin at 11 a.m. at the community centre. Everyone is invited to attend and asked to arrive early.

Hirsch says she is very thankful for every volunteer, the firefighters who helped prepare the garden for planting, the Town's parks and recreation department and the NOTL Horticultural Society for all of their support they have provided throughout the years. She says she hopes everyone who has been involved with the gardens will attend the ceremony.

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Council feels for Fort Erie's slots loss

NOTL Town councillors send a resolution to the province, the gaming corporation and to the town of Fort Erie urging a reconsideration of the decision to remove slot machines

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Niagara-on-the-Lake town councillors understand the pain of provincial decisions that adversely effect municipalities—especially when they have an economic impact on tourism.

Council has thrown its support behind Fort Erie as it faces the devastating effects of an "ill-sighted" decision to take away its slot machines, leading to the fear that it will also lose its race track, which in recent years has relied on revenue from the slots to shore up a lagging horse-racing industry.

The decision of the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation will result in the loss of 200 employees at a time when Fort Erie has already suffered tremendous job losses and economic upheaval, without a business case for closure presented publicly, says the resolution councillors unanimously approved.

"The OLGC and the province are making a unilateral move without input from the people of Fort Erie and Niagara," said Councillor Gary Zalepa.

> **"It's irresponsible to place that burden on a community that's already facing economic challenges."**
>
> *— NOTL Town councillor Jamie King*

The province should solicit input from residents and town leaders before making such a drastic move, rather than pulling the rug out from under the municipality while it's busy making plans for the coming season, said Zalepa.

Decisions are being made by the Liberal government, whose support now comes primarily from Toronto, to the detriment of smaller municipalities, said councillors.

"It's irresponsible to place that burden on a community that's already facing economic challenges," said Councillor Jamie King, agreeing with the town's resolution, which will go to the province and to the town of Fort Erie to let them know they have some support around the region.

"This sends a message to the province that they need to figure out better solutions to their economic troubles."

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 905-468-3266 www.notl.org

TENDER FOR
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SEALED TENDERS, properly marked as to the contents, will be received by the office of the Clerk, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, Ontario until 2:00pm local time on:

Thursday, April 12, 2012

Tenders will be opened at 2:00 p.m. on the same day in the Council Chambers at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Offices.

The work to be carried out under this contract generally consists of, but is not limited to:

385 m	**750mm diameter irrigation pipe in open cut**
380 m²	**Rip-rap channel protection**
2	**1500mm diameter valve chambers c/w sluice gates**
2	**Ditch inlet catchbasins**

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All tenders must be accompanied by a certified cheque in the amount of $10,000.00 made payable to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and an Agreement to Bond.

Plans and specifications may be viewed without charge but not removed at the following locations after April 2, 2012:

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Municipal Offices Clerks Department 1593 Creek Road Virgil, ON L0S 1T0	Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Department of Public Works 3 Lorraine Street Virgil, ON L0S 1T0	Niagara Construction Association 34 Scott Street St. Catharines, ON **(members only)**

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Lord Mayor Dave Eke serves a piece of celebratory cake to former Lord Mayor Art Viola and his granddaughter, Malea Viola, at the community centre's first anniversary open house.

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Community centre celebrates first anniversary of success

Residents have embraced new facility, mayor says

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

In just a year, the new Community Centre has proved to be more successful than ever imagined.

Lord Mayor Dave Eke, at the anniversary celebration Monday afternoon and again at council in the evening, said the facility has exceeded all expectations.

"It's hard to believe it's now been one year since we opened the doors in celebration—and what a day it was."

More than 1,000 residents, "smiling from ear to ear," visited the facility on opening day, he said. "There was nothing but joy and celebration that day."

Monday's afternoon anniversary celebration was low-key, but an acknowledgement of the way the community has embraced the facility.

"It's busy each and every day," said Eke, with the 1,000th member signed up just two weeks ago for the fitness club.

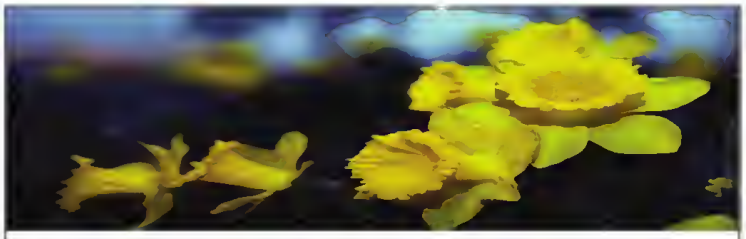
He recently attended a meeting at the community centre while a private party was going on in the banquet room, and there were no parking spots, he said.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to see it's being used."

Council hoped, when it opened, that it wouldn't be a financial burden to the taxpayers, he said, and that by pricing its services reasonably, it would bring in revenue to cover its costs, which has turned out to be the case.

"We're always talking about customer satisfaction," said Eke, and with the community centre, program manager Kevin Turcotte and the staff "are delivering in spades."

Facilities manager Ken Rive, parks and recreation director Clive Buist, Lord Mayor Dave Eke, program manager Kevin Turcotte, maintenance staff Zach Dube and fundraising committee chairman John Wiens celebrate a great first year for the community centre.



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BY NOËL COWARD
MAY 19 - 8PM
MAY 20, 25 & 27 - 2PM

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BY BERNARD SHAW
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MAY 26 - 8PM

Photo illustrations: Emily Cooper

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Queenston showing its true colours

The village of Queenston is showing its colours: a custom-designed War of 1812 Bicentennial flag is flying high.

Queenston's flag has been installed on utility poles in the village and at the Queenston Library, and will be flown for the three years of bicentennial events.

The flag, which is accompanied by the Union Jack and the Canadian flag, was designed by Barbara Gelb, a local graphic designer, who also designed the Niagara-on-the-Lake War of 1812 Bicentennial flag and logo.

Three sizes of the flag are available. Call Jim Armstrong, president of the Queenston Residents Association at 905-262-0268 or email armstrong@bellnet.ca to purchase one.

Dr. Richard Merritt, Barbara Gelb, Rick Meloen, Lord Mayor Dave Eke, Jim Alexander, Lyle Williams, Tony Chisholm and Queenston Residents Association president Jim Armstrong display the bicentennial flag outside the historic Laura Secord School in Queenston. The 1812 flag was designed for the village by Gelb.

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Sky's the limit for NOTL woman

Sky-jumping could be next for the wheel-chair bound woman

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The sky's the limit for Christine Rougoor, the Niagara-on-the-Lake woman who has been on a roller coaster ride since posting a YouTube video of her bungee-jumping experience.

While anyone planning such an adventure for the first time might understandably be nervous, Rougoor, paralyzed from the chest down in a motocross accident in Florida three years ago, says she was more excited than scared as she was lifted over the edge of the Whistler, BC, platform in in her wheelchair and tossed off. She chose to jump in her wheelchair—it has become part of her, goes with her everywhere, and also provides some security and protection for her body, she said. "It increased my comfort level to be in my chair," she said.

Rougoor, now a Brock student doing her masters in education, grew up in St. Davids and graduated from Niagara District Secondary School before entering university for her bachelor degrees in education and arts.

It was during a break from her fourth year at Brock that Rougoor, always the adventurer, suffered the life-changing accident that]left her paralyzed and broke every bone in her body, leading to extensive facial reconstruction surgery.

But with the support of friends, family and people she has met who are also facing mobility challenges head-on, Rougoor has moved forward, refusing to let her disability stop her from reaching her goals.

One of those goals was bungee-jumping, something she had always wanted to try before her injuries, she said. Until she heard of 9Lives and entered their contest, she thought that was now impossible.

The trip to Whistler, which she won, also fulfilled one of her goals, she said—and although there were traveling challenges, it turned out to be easier than she expected.

Her life since uploading the video of her jump, which went viral in no time, has changed her life yet again—she has been interviewed by CTV and ET TV, has been on CNN, radio, and featured in several newspaper articles, and is pleased with the attention it brings to the issue of living—in her case, really living—with a disability.

ANd it has taught her that the sky really is the limit—she hopes to try sky-diving this summer.

Christine Rougoor, paralyzed from the chest down, flies through the air while bungee-jumping in Whistler, BC.

Pressing forward in a two-legged world is not easy, she said, "but I have seen and met many people through this experience that have shown me that people with disabilities can move forward and live a great life despite many obstacles."

She is currently working on a thesis for her master's about teachers with disabilities, and whether they get sthe support they need for their work in the classroom.

"I love to educate others about disability awareness, whether it's in a classroom, doing some public speaking, or bungee-jumping in front of a crowd of people. It helps prove somebody with a disability ca live a great and fulfilling life," she says.

For some, fear can be about going to the grocery store or getting on a public transit bus for the first time, but each time you try something new, you build your confidence, and things get easier.

"I am not saying everyone should go bungee jumping, but taking the first step outside your comfort zone is crucial. Life is not over because you have a disability."

It can be lonely at times, she admits, but that's when family, friends and supporters in the disabled community can help. "Other people with a similar condition have inspired me to keep going, and I hope to inspire others."

For more information about the organization 9Lives Adventures please visit www.9livesadventures.com or www.facebook.com/9lives.page.

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St. Davids Lions Club to build heritage trail

Sarah Ferguson
Niagara Advance

Thanks to St. Davids Lions, pedestrians will be able to take a historical journey as they stroll along a village trail.

Harry Murdoch and fellow St. Davids Lions Club members Randy Armstrong, Rob Copeland and Pete Merritt have been working hard to raise funds for a heritage trail to be built in St. Davids to commemorate important historical events leading up to the War of 1812.

The trail will have 15 to 18 plaques marking historic events that the club expects to have erected before the end of 2014, says Murdoch.

These plaques will commemorate important dates, events and people in history including the burning of St. Davids, Peter Secord who was the first Loyalist farmer, and the capital of Upper Canada.

Murdoch says the intention is to create a small trail with the possibility of expanding it in the future to include an asphalt path and the addition of more stones.

He said there is still a need for donations and he welcomes any business or individual who can contribute.

"Our focus is to help the trail expand in the future. These aren't the best of times economically right now but we're hoping to get this trail on the ground for the 2012 celebrations."

Murdoch says he expects to see some of the stones put in place as early as the fall.

Copeland says St. Davids was centre stage for many of the events of the war and that's something many people might not think about.

"When you talk about 1812, the focal point of this war was in this area. It's where the future of Canada was decided."

Armstrong says the trail will serve as a reminder of what happened in St. Davids.

"We hope that it will act as a constant reminder and as a renewal for people who have forgotten what happened here."

For more information about the trail phone Murdoch at 905-262-1030.

SARAH FERGUSON Niagara Advance

St. Davids Lions Club Members Randy Armstrong, Harry Murdoch and Rob Copeland, by a monument for Colonel John Clement in St. Davids, are part of a small committee organizing a heritage trail that will commemorate important dates and people in St. Davids history.

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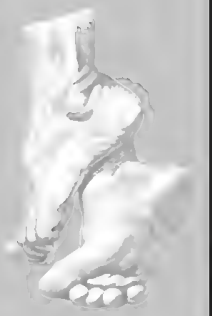

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Piano player wanted for opening of Shaw Festival

Theatre company is inviting amateur musicians to upload video clips of themselves online playing their favourite ragtime composition.

Ragtime piano players wanted.

The Shaw Festival is celebrating the launch of its 2012 season and the opening of Ragtime, this year's showcase production, with Get Ready to Rag–a contest to find the next great ragtime pianist.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake theatre company is inviting amateur piano players over the age of 13 to upload video clips of themselves playing their favourite ragtime composition to The Shaw's Facebook page.

The winner will perform for a live audience on Ragtime's opening night and receive a Yamaha Clavinova digital piano valued at more than $2000.

This powerful musical portrait of three families in turn-of-the-century America is a kaleidoscopic depiction of an era of innovation and change, set to the rhythms of ragtime.

Contestants have three minutes to wow the judges and will be assessed on talent, enthusiasm, and showmanship.

The Shaw Festival has recruited a panel of judges: The Shaw's artistic director, Jackie Maxwell, internationally renowned musician Michael Kaeshammer, Jazz FM's Heather Bambrick and The Shaw's music director, Paul Sportelli.

The contest will help kick off the 51st season of the Shaw Festival with its lineup of powerful stories told with humanity and wit.

From the sweeping musical saga Ragtime, to Noël Coward's elegantly uproarious Present Laughter–the Shaw Festival is gearing up for another spectacular season pulsing with energy.

The grand prize includes: four tickets to the opening night performance of Ragtime, overnight accommodation in Niagara-on-the-Lake courtesy of Vintage Hotels, an opportunity to perform in the Festival Theatre lobby on opening night on May 26, and a Yamaha Clavinova digital piano valued at more than $2000.

To enter, contestants must upload a video of themselves playing their favourite ragtime piece and posted it on the Shaw Festival Facebook page at www.facebook.com/shawfestival.

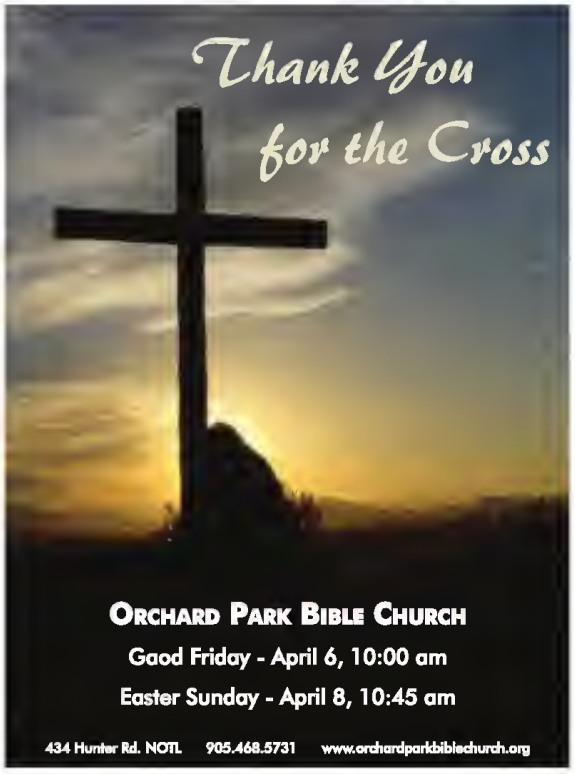
Complete eligibility requirements and full contest rules are also listed on the theatre's Facebook page.

Click on the Shaw Festival contest tab.

The contest closes April 30, and the winner will be announced May 10.

For tickets or info about The Shaw, visit www.shawfest.com.

The Shaw Festival is looking for piano players to audition for opening night of Ragtime.



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Palm Sunday April 1st - 8:30 Holy Eucharist
10:30 Choral Eucharist - Blessing of palms and procession with donkey.
Maundy Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 pm
Ecumenical Good Friday service,
April 6 11am at St. Mark's - Easter Vigil,
April 7 Sunset (7:30pm) at St. Mark's
Easter Day, April 8
8:30 Holy Eucharist
10:30 Choral Eucharist with Guest Musicians

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Shaw Festival offers discounted ticket prices for select performances

The Niagara Neighbours Spring Celebration offers residents tickets for $39 and $20 for students to selected performances.

Each spring the Shaw Festival offers discounted tickets to local theatregoers, and this year, whether it's a riveting drama or a wildly funny comedy, there is something for everyone to see.

The Shaw Festival is once again hosting the Niagara Neighbours Spring Celebration, offering residents tickets for $39 dollars on select performances and $20 for students.

These performances include French Without Tears, A Man and Some Women, Present Laughter and Misalliance.

Discounted tickets will be offered for the French Without Tears performance on May 24 and 30 at 9 p.m. It is the perfect summer comedy, wirtten by Terence Rattigan.

It's a story about young diplomats and a fiery femme fatale set within a seaside cottage of France.

Tickets for A man and Some Women, written by Githa Sowerby, will be offered to locals on May 16 and 18 at 8 p.m. and May 26 and 27 at 2 p.m.

It's a story about a family that dreams about happiness and freedom. Those dreams collide with the call of duty in this drama.

Tickets for Present Laughter, written by Noel Coward, will be offered on May 19 at 8 p.m. and May 20, 25 and 27 at 2 p.m.

It's a seductive comedy about theatre in the 1930s when celebrity had style and fame was fun.

The Neighbours performances of Misalliance, written by Bernard Shaw, are May 16 at 2 p.m. and May 26 at 8 p.m.

It's a comedy about a quiet weekend in the country, starring a bored heiress, a handsome man and a female daredevil.

There is also a preview performance for the hit musical Ragtime for $58.

The offer for discounted rate for residents ends April 9.

To purchase tickets phone 905-468-2172.

Present Laughter, written by Noel Coward, is one of the Shaw Festival's productions that can be viewed for a discounted rate during the Niagara Neighbours Spring Celebration.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Niagara-on-the-Lake,

Saturday, March 31, 2012 @ 7:00 pm

The evening includes Lent and Easter anthems, spirituals as well as congregational singing, accompanied by organ and brass instruments.

Director of Music.
Dr. Gerzinus E Hoekstra

Mendelt D. Hoekstra,
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www.graceunitedchurch.com
Wheelchair Access

Niagara Christian Assembly
(P.A.O.C.)
1875 Hwy 55 • 905-468-8971
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Sunday, April 1st
Pastor Kevin Mullin Ministering
Good Friday - Join us for a continental breakfast starting at 9:00am
followed by a one hour Good Friday service.
www.ncachurch.net: check here for events and podcasts.

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9:30 am Worship Service
10:45 am Sunday School
Pastors Oavid Brubacher and Marty Misener
905-468-3505 www.vexxine.com/bethany/

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10:00 am Worship Service
Pastor Larry Ritter

Village
St. Davids Public School Meeting at 1344 York Road, St. Davids 289-296-9036
Sunday, April 1st
10:00am: Coffee Time • 10:30am: Worship Service
(Childcare Provided)
The Last 24: The Courtyard
Pastor Greg Alderton
www.villagebiblechurch.ca

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH
www.ccchurch.ca
1570 Niagara Stone Rd.
905-468-7155
Sunday, April 1st
9:30 am: 1st Service & CE
(childcare provided during entire service);
10:30 am: Coffee Time; 11:00 am: 2nd Service
(childcare provided mid-way through service)
Behaviour... Gospel Fighting
Message: Kevin Bayne, Pastor

Niagara United Mennonite Church
"Called to be Servants of Christ In Our Community"
10:00 am German Service
Message by Haus H. Dau
11:00 am Worship Service
Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks
"Jesus' entry into Jerusalem"
(Matt. 21:1-11)
Pastors:
Rudy & Sharon Dirks,
Stephen Cox
1775 Niagara Stone Road
905-468-3313
http://www.redbrickchurch.ca

ORCHARD PARK BIBLE CHURCH
www.orchardparkbiblechurch.org
434 Hunter Rd.
905-468-5731
Sunday, April 1st
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Message by Pastor Jim Evans
"Jesus is Coming"
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New sign for airport on hold

Redesign of Airport Road intersection in the works

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

It's just a sign, but it's a thorn in the side of many who drive by the airport every day.

A major revamp at the Niagara District Airport, including runway improvements and a brand new terminal, was completed last summer at a cost of $12 million.

But when town councillors were updated on the progress and invited to the opening, one of the first questions that was asked was 'when will we see a new sign?'

It's a question that is still being asked by motorists who drive by the airport on Niagara Stone Road, one of the main gateways to town, and are faced by a ramshackle wooden structure that held a sign that was equally run-down.

The sign has been removed, but the region is discussing a realignment of the intersection of Airport Road and Niagara Stone Road, says airport manager Len O'Connor.

A round-about at the intersection is also a possiblity, as is a traffic light.

O'Connor says there is no point in spending money on a sign that may have to come down or be moved, so the decision has been made to hold off until the work at the intersection is complete, or at least until he knows what the region plans to do.

"We're still waiting to see what's happening," he said.

Depending on the location of the new sign, the wooden structure could turn out to be useful, he said, which is why it is still standing.

Frank Tassone, a transportation engineer at the region, says they are looking at several intersections along the stretch of Niagara Stone Road between Airport Road and Line 2.

There has been one public meeting, and there will be more opportunities for public input before a decision is made.

A meeting held last fall attracted about 20 people, he said.

But at the moment, any further decisions on the options will wait until the region knows the results of an environmental assessment study at the Glendale-Queen Elizabeth Way interchange, which will also see some redesign.

Those changes, he said, could impact the volume of traffic on Niagara Stone Road.

He expects the region will have some options to consider by late summer, and a decision by the fall.

Niagara District Airport manager Len O'Connor says there is no point replacing the aging wooden structure that once held the airport sign until he knows where the new sign will be located.

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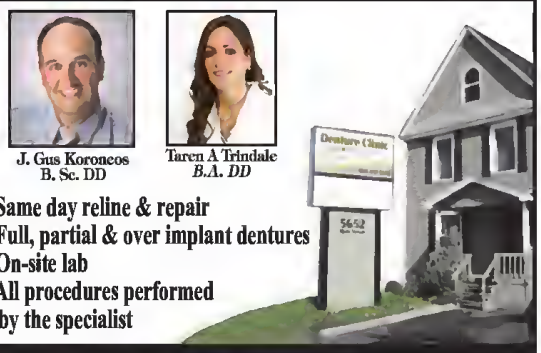

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Local volunteer to receive jubilee medal

Neil Rumble taken by surprise at funding announcement

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Neil Rumble admits he may have been daydreaming when he heard MP Rob Nicholson call his name at the Niagara Historical Museum last week.

And then all of a sudden, he says, everyone was clapping.

"I was completely oblivious to what was going on."

Rumble was there to hear the good news about funding for 1812 celebrations, including events at the museum.

So he was more than a little surprised when Nicholson began to speak about Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medals.

It was almost mentioned as an aside to the funding, and came completely out of left field to Rumble when he heard he was going to be a recipient.

When Rumble moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake more than 20 years ago, it was to begin his retirement.

But that wasn't to be.

He soon found himself managing the NOTL Chamber of Commerce, doing everything in his power to draw more tourists to town.

Although NOTL had already become a destination, Rumble was concerned about preserving the historic image that attracted visitors. it was Rumble who first began using the phrase "killing the goose that laid the golden egg," when talking about decisions that were contrary to heritage preservation, one of the town's main attractions.

Rumble was, and still is, passionate about caring for the town and its tourist economy. He was instrumental in obtaining the Prettiest Town designation, helped get a tour bus lot built at Fort George to keep buses off Queen Street, and encouraged other Chambers in the region to work together when lobbying Queen's Park for tourism support.

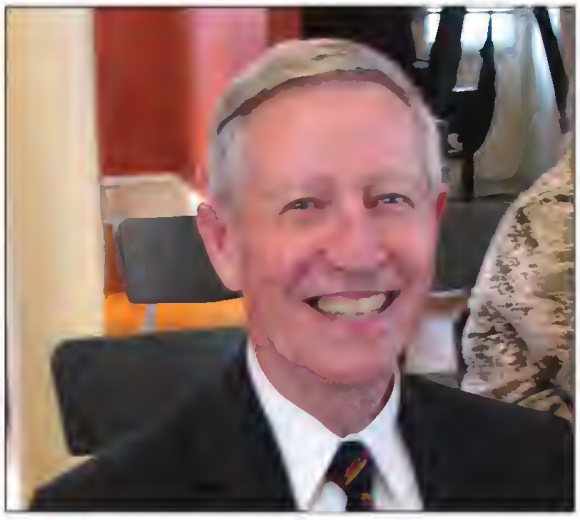
He is past president of the Niagara Historical Society and Museum and still a board member, active in organizing the upcoming Brock Ball.

He is still just as involved and just as passionate about preserving heritage, although now as a volunteer.

He isn't sure who nominated him for the honour, or when he will receive his award, he said.

He does know that the announcement might have been the first time he was left speechless—he has a reputation of having a quick comeback.

As for his volunteer efforts: "I've never tried to be front and centre. I just do what I believe in."



Neil Rumble was delighted, and surprised, at the announcement by MP Rob Nicholson at the museum last week that he would be receiving a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

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Providing locally grown products and supporting local business is very important to her. Community involvement is close to Sharon's heart and she is always looking for ways to contribute back into the community. Sharon has always given her time whenever possible providing a smile and a helping hand where needed.

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Vicki Bolduc has been with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Realty Team since 1980.

"I love my job!" She states. "Many people my age have retired, but I have no plans to do that anytime soon. Selling real estate in Niagara-on-the-Lake is a wonderful experience."

Vicki's detailed knowledge of the Niagara-on-the-Lake real estate and the number of properties available, and local community, enables her to provide the discriminating buyer with all the necessary insights to make an informed decision.

"I get to meet interesting people from all walks of life and view beautiful properties." Vicki continues to say, "Thank you Niagara for giving me so many great years."

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Karen Mitruk

What's In My Closet?

What internal motivation drives you to succeed?

So what keeps me going? After thinking about it for quite a while, I came to the conclusion that the fun of running a business, my compulsive need for perfection and helping people, keeps me going. The uniqueness of my shop and being able to change things up whenever I want is a perfect fit. I get a personal satisfaction helping women look their best at affordable prices. The store donates clothing and this lets me give back to my community. Who could ask for anything more? And on the days I am tired, chocolate is the perfect motivator.

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Sandra Cocetti

Bliss

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Sandra Cocetti has been providing area residents with "blissful" beautification services for the past 12 years. Sandra lives in Virgil with her husband Lawrence and children Enzo and Emilia.

The owner and operator of Bliss Hair Salon has an extensive beautification background. Sandra specializes as a skin care consultant, make-up artist and hair technician. Bliss Hair Salon proudly uses products containing 96% naturally derived ingredients, PBD-free hair colouring system and Paribin-free lifestyle products.

Keeping up to date with current styles and trends, Sandra has received training in major fashion and beauty metropolitan areas of Dallas, New York, Montreal and Toronto.

She is an avid supporter of community organizations such as Autism Niagara, Women's Place and the Niagara community as a whole.

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Shelagh Wallace, co-owner, Creek Road Paints & Painters, comes from the somewhat unrelated world of writing and book publishing, but has attempted to incorporate more writing into the paint business by creating The Primer newsletters and writing articles for the Advance.

Creek Road Paints and Painters carries Benjamin Moore interior and exterior paints and stains, a large selection of unusual wallpapers (including William Morris and Sanderson), and Levolor and Shade-o-matic blinds. They also have all the supplies and equipment you need to complete any of your painting projects. We'll soon also be carrying cabinet hardware.

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Karen Skeoch

The Niagara Advance

Karen Skeoch has been your Niagara Advance media advertising specialist for more than 20 years.

Karen is also your advertising link to local community publications, Discover Niagara-on-the-Lake Visitor's Guide, Community Awareness Fall/Winter and Spring Summer editions, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Bicentennial magazine and the Virgil Stampede Program.

Karen considers it a privilege to work in such a beautiful community and is grateful for her wonderful clients.

If you would like an effective newsprint or online marketing plan in the Niagara Advance as well as other Sun Media publications in the Niagara Region, call Karen at 905-468-3283 ext. 101. She will be more than happy to help you with all of your advertising needs!

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Sotheby's International Realty Canada

Nancy Brazeau is the Business Manager and Sales Representative with Sotheby's International Realty.

She has been consistently recognized for her top sales achievements and has a stellar reputation for delivering exceptional service. Her extensive background in business management includes owning and operating a successful property management company and guest house in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Nancy takes great pride in building trusting and caring relationships with her team and clients. These skills were crafted while working in the hospitality business where she enjoyed a successful career in senior management. Her extensive experience included eight years as Senior Director of Sales & Marketing of Niagara-on-the-Lake Vintage Inns and a two year tenure as General Manager of Queen's Landing.

She demonstrates her commitment to her core value of social responsibility to the community by her involvement in sponsorships of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre, St. Catharines General Hospital and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Tournament as well as the community shuttle service.

For all of your real estate needs, contact Nancy at 905-468-0001

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Mori Gardens has a staff of 20, including garden designers and consultants. Tonie manages the business aspect of the operation. Her job includes goal-setting – long and short term, marketing, advertising, analyzing products that will keep customers coming back and purchasing products from various product providers located in Ontario, British Columbia and Oregon including green goods and giftware.

"I love being in a business that brings joy to the customer; beautifies a home, business or event – it has a tranquility about it," Tonie explains.

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Sue Tasker is a full-time Residential Real Estate Broker with 22 years experience.
Sue received her Broker licence in 2003. She is also fluent in German.

Sue likes to work as though she is a coach. She enjoys properly educating the buyer and seller which allows them to make the decision that best suits them.

Sue will go the extra mile to ensure the process is smooth and that all information is pertinent and factual. She is a very community minded individual.

Sue volunteers her time with Victim Services Niagara c/o Niagara Regional Police Services HQ
Sue is also a member of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Newcomers group.

Sue loves the Niagara-on-the-Lake community, expecially since it's its own unique entity. She makes this community home with her husband and Miniature Schnauzer "Jake".

Client service is her No. 1 priority. Sue wants her potential buyers and sellers to be comfortable with the respective process. She encourages everyone, whether buying or selling to ask questions.

If you see a move in your future, just call Sue Tasker and "Just Ask Her!

Lida Kowal

Lida Kowal*

Certified Management Accountant

Lida Kowal, of Adil Accounting & Management has been assisting small to medium-sized businesses with their financial aspect for the past 24 years.

Lida is a senior accountant for personal and corporate taxation. She specializes in small business, credit and financial counseling. Lida can also help set a business on track by assisting with business plans and strategic accounting.

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Baby grand on the move

RiverBrink piano moved to Stonechurch Winery for Music Niagara concerts and rehearsals

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

A baby grand piano which has anchored the South Gallery of the RiverBrink Art Museum for the last 12 years has been given a new home with Music Niagara.

In an example of two different cultural institutions working together for the mutual benefit of Niagara, this transfer of the 1908 The Henry S.G. Lindeman baby grand will benefit both organizations, says RiverBrink development manager Brian Kremen.

"Music Niagara did some performances at RiverBrink, and we've continued our mutual support. We like supporting local arts - we feel we're stronger together."

The museum will gain much-needed exhibition space for its War of 1812 exhibition and the summer music festival will acquire a piano that will be used in its programming and rehearsals.

SARAH FERGUSON Niagara Advance

A baby grand piano at RiverBrink is being given a new home with Music Niagara, and is being prepared for the move Wednesday, watched over by RiverBrink director and curator David Aurandt and Music Niagara executive director Chris Blake.

"This is a wonderful instrument with an important local history and provenance. It's terrific that we will be able to keep it in play, here in and around Niagara-on-the-Lake for the enjoyment of local audiences as well as our visitors," said artistic director Atis Bankas.

"We offer our thanks to Riverbrink for their generosity and foresight in giving the piano yet another life."

The piano will remain at Stonechurch Winery, which has hosted several concerts, and will continue to be an important venue for the festival, says Chris Blake, executive director of Music Niagara.

"We're glad to have it. We won't have to rent or borrow a piano, and we can do more concerts at different times of the year with it."

There are plans to offer a concert of country and bluegrass music this summer, and possibly jazz concerts at Stonechurch next winter, said Blake.

"The piano will enable us to make great use of that space. Its a unique venue that has its own special kind of vibe."

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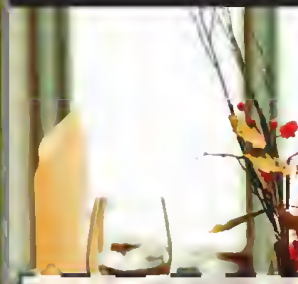

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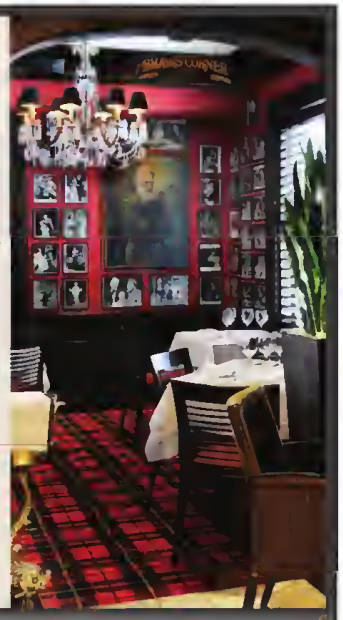

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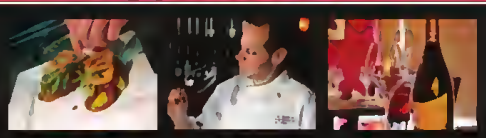

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Junior basketball players look forward to the beginning of their season

Students raise funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Isabell Frik and Travis Gagnon
Crossroads Public School

It's been a busy month for Crossroads Public School.

There have been very many exciting events happening this month, like Jump Rope for Heart.

Our school raised $7,454 in donations for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

A special thank you to our generous donors, and the event organizers Michele Zoccoli, Laura Weaver, and Tracey Kent.

On March 3, our whole main floor was cleared out for the annual Niagara-On-the-Lake Home Show.

With more than 80 vendors in the gym and primary classrooms, it was an exciting event for our community to enjoy.

There was also a BBQ, silent auction, bake sale and cooking demonstrations.

The Home Show was a huge success for Crossroads.

Many thanks goes to all those individuals who came out, to our staff for helping to set up for the show, and to our school council for all their hard work.

Crossroads Public School
In the classroom

The show earned about $20,000.

We're excited that the second phase of our playstructure is now paid in full, and will be installed this spring.

On March 8, the last day before March Break, we had our monthly Shining Star Assembly, where a lot of our fellow classmates and students were awarded with a Shining Star certificates for demonstrating achievement, improvement or character in action.

We had an exciting presentation from our Grade 4/5 class about this month's character trait, perseverance.

The students used video and drama to show how important it is to keep trying even when things get difficult or challenging.

The following week, the students got to enjoy a nice and well deserved March Break.

As the students returned from holidays, we were welcomed back by Niagara College students who came in every day for a Waste Audit.

The college students weighed our garbage and noted how much we have been wasting and recycling.

The college students did this to help us learn to manage our waste better.

Thanks to the help provided by the college students, Crossroads is one step closer to becoming a Gold Ontario Eco School, just like Butler and Virgil were.

To wrap up the month, our chess team will be working hard tomorrow to represent our school in the area chess tournament.

The junior girls and boys basketball teams have just started their season.

So far, the girls have three wins and no losses.

The boys have one win and two losses.

Both teams hope to qualify for the District School Board of Niagara Championship on April 23.

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Crossroads student Riley Lepp hams it up at the net during the school's Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart event while Alexis Konkle scores a slam dunk with Amber Olling holding the net up.

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Friends who share love of art display work at library

Acrylic landscapes, many Haliburton scenes, make up exhibit

Diana Bellerby and her late husband Gordon were the long-time Niagara-on-the-Lake residents, Dr. Bill Brown and his wife Jan the newcomers.

The Bellerbys, says Brown, welcomed them and took them under their wings, as they did others who moved to NOTL.

They had much in common—they soon discovered both couples had cottages in Haliburton, Gordon and Bill loved flying, and Bill and Diana are both artists who like to share ideas and problems with their work.

Brown remembers vividly the first time he and Jan were invited to the Bellerby's home on Victoria Street. He didn't know Diana was an artist, and he was "knocked over" by a stunning painting on the wall—the brushwork, the colour, boldness and sense of adventure made for a stunning work of art, he said.

"I liked everything about it."

He discovered later, of course that it was her work, and they went on to share their love of art, their friendship cemented when they took art classes together in Haliburton, as they plan to do again this summer.

Both will be at the NOTL Public Library Sunday, April 1 for an artist's salon, beginning at 2 p.m.

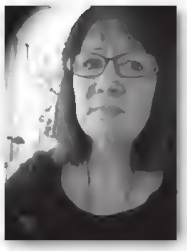
For the month of April, their work will be on display—acrylics, many of them Haliburton scenes, Brown's painted from his dock as he recorded the changing colours, light and mood of the day from sunrise to sunset, and Bellerby's largely done from photos she's taken along country roads.

"They all cry to be painted, so that's what I do," says Bellerby.

While she has formal training, and made a career of her knowledge of art with the Art Gallery of Ontario, Brown began drawing portraits to illustrate his books, and painted a few family portraits. The Haliburton lessons, he said, really "upped my interest."

Diana Bellerby and Bill Brown display paintings that will be part of their show at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library, beginning Sunday, April 1. The two artists will be at the library from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday to answer questions about their work.

Linda Attoe, Psychotherapist



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AGCO | Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario

Ontario

Notice of Liquor Licence Application

The following establishment has applied to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario for a liquor licence under the *Liquor Licence Act:*

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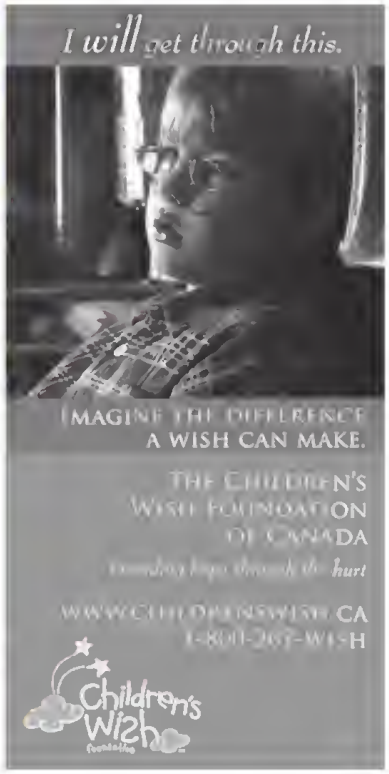
Any resident of the municipality may make a written submission as to whether the issuance of the licence is in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the residents. Submissions must be received no later than **April 21, 2012**. Please include your name, address and telephone number. If a petition is submitted to the Commission, please identify the designated contact person. **Note:** The AGCO gives the applicant copies of any objections. Anonymous objections are not considered.

The personal information gathered is collected under the authority of the *Liquor Licence Act*. The principal purpose of the collection is to assess eligibility for the issuance of a liquor sales licence. Copies of all objections are given to the applicant. The information may also be disclosed pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Manager, Licensing and Registration, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario at the address, telephone numbers or e-mail address listed below.

Submissions to be sent to: **Licensing and Registration, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, 90 Sheppard Avenue East, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M2N 0A4. Tel: 416-326-8700 OR Toll-free in Ontario: 1-800-522-2876. Fax: 416-326-5555. E-mail: licensing@agco.on.ca**



Wanted: a place to play soccer, with showers

Adult soccer league wants to play in town and represent NOTL

Wanted: a soccer field. With showers available.

Michael Yap and his team of over-35 Old Towne Gunners hope to continue playing in Niagara-on-the-Lake and representing what for most of them is their home town.

In their first season last year, they played at the Croatian National Centre on Line 3, but that location is no longer available to them.

Yap and his team would love to play at Memorial Park, but one of the conditions of the adult soccer league, the Peninsula Veterans, is that showers must be available, and that is proving to be a problem.

Town staff has offered the use of the fields at Memorial Park, and the washrooms nearby.

But the showers are part of the pool change room, and it's proving difficult to figure out how the showers can be made available while restricting access to the pool deck, late in the evening, after pool staff would have gone home.

There are safety and liability issues that restrict access to pool deck when there are no lifeguards present, explained parks and recreation director Clive Buist.

There are also safety concerns about locking the doors to the deck—if emergency personnel required access to the pool, they would be hampered by the locks.

Yap was at council Monday looking for a solution, and working against the clock to let the league know if he has a location to play.

"I'm asking council to come up with a resolution so we can use the facility and continue our league—there is no other alternative for us at this time," said Yap.

"We would love to be able to stay in NOTL and represent NOTL."

If the issue is paying a staff member, he said, he'd be glad to look after that and to have the change room cleaned when the men are finished showering.

"I don't expect the town to absorb the cost."

While it was clear the parks and recreation department faces obstacles opening up the showers to the soccer team after hours—from about 10 p.m. to 11 p.m.—councillors were not prepared to simply say no to Yap's request.

Town administrator Mike Galloway said staff would have a second look at the issue to see if the soccer team's needs could be accommodated, and expected to be able to get back to Yap with an answer later this week.

Michael Yap hopes his soccer team, the Old Towne Gunners, will be able to play at Memorial Park this season. Town staff is trying to work out how to make showers accessible to the team.

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Eliane McManus, Devin Hunter and Elle Smith prepare for a visit from the Easter Bunny at Niagara Nursery School in the new community centre.

The Easter Bunny is coming to the fair

Annual egg hunt and Bunny Trail Spring Fair set for April 7.

The Easter Bunny is certainly on his way.

Families can celebrate his arrival with the traditional egg hunt provided by the Kinsmen Club and The Bunny Trail Spring Fair, hosted by the Niagara Nursery School and now in its 18th year.

Both events will be held at the new Anderson Lane Community Centre—the nursery school, which is also now a child care centre with before and after school day care, moved in to the new facility in September and hasn't looked back.

This year's Bunny Trail is a fundraiser for indoor resources for the nursery school, says supervisor Patricia Couroux.

Their wish list includes an aquarium, new child-size couches, some adult-sized furniture, and plants to get a garden started.

Tschool's major fundraiser usually attracts about 2,000 people, and last year was raising money for the new playground, which has been installed and enjoyed by this year's students. It will be open for use at the Bunny Trail, says Couroux.

The facility, unlike the former Scout Hall location, is completely accessible, she added.

The Fair will have lots of activities for everyone in the family, including a barbecue, bake sale, face painting, inflatable bouncers, children's games, Mad Science for the older kids, a silent auction, a visit from the Easter Bunny and of course the Kinsmen egg hunt, which begins at 10 a.m. sharp.

Most of the activities will be indoors in the auditorium, with the exception of the inflatables and the egg hunt, which goes on rain or shine—hopefully shine, says Couroux.

There is no admission and it's also an opportunity visit the new community centre and preschool room.

Their new location, says Couroux, "is fantastic. It's amazing. The community centre staff has been phenomenal, very accommodating and helpful, and the space is wonderful I can't say enough about how great it is. At one point it seemed like we had a long, five-year road ahead, and we wondered if it would ever happen, but it did, and it's great to be here."

The Bunny Trail Spring Fair and Kinsmen Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 7 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre on Anderson Lane.

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Sports

Editor Penny Coles
905-468-3283 ext. 103 editor@niagaraadvance.com

Atom Rangers take fourth place in provincial tourney

In atom action, the Niagara Rangers finished their season with a fourth place win in Division 5 at the Ontario Provincial Championships.

The Rangers played five intense games and they fought hard.

The girls started strong the tourney strong, defeating London 23-14 and Pelham 31-29.

In their third game, the Rangers faced Ottawa and lost 29-11.

Facing a top-ranked Windsor team in the semi-sinals, the Rangers came out strong and defensive holding Windsor to only seven points at halftime.

The Rangers got a lead on Windsor in the next half but they couldn't hold onto it and lost 21-15.

In their final game, the Rangers went on to face Ottawa again.

With determination and their fans supporting them, the Rangers played their best game of the weekend.

The game went into overtime and Ottawa sank the last basket to win 21-19.

Throughout the tournament all the players on the Rangers showed great hustle, good sportsmanship and terrific teamwork. They dedicated this tournament to Alexis Smith who broke her wrist in the first game.

Beth deBoer had a fantastic tournament and led all scorers with 23 points.

Molly Bowron earned 20 points. Jeniah Wiens worked hard on the court and earned 14 points. Rachel Frena earned 12 points BS Lois deGroot scored eight points.

Carrie Robinson was terrific in grabbing rebounds and netted five points.

Lauren Juras and Morgan Buis showed great hustle and each scored four points. Mackenzie Brown scored two points.

Katie Dunn and Katie Caughill showed great defensive skills.

The atom Rangers brought home a fourth place title from the Ontario Provincial Championships in their division.

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In atom action of the NOTL Minor Hockey Association, the Meridian Credit Union defeated West Lincoln in a 6-1 battle on Monday. The atoms also tied games this week, 4-4 and 2-2, to become the Niagara District House League Champions. Players Hailey Rumsey, Evan Hills, Ryan Garrett, Noah Lavoie, Josh Biega, Samantha Holenski, Emma Penner, Madison Berg, Griffin DenBesten, Xavier Carr, Coach Ace Carr, Connor Smythe, Connor Hendricks, Coach Dennis DenBesten, Robbie Falk, Austin Gould, and Coach Graham Hills celebrate their win on the ice.

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Novice Rangers bring home consolation gold from tourney

Newly formed basketball team plays first provincial competition.

In novice action, Niagara Rangers girls basketball team travelled to Chatham last weekend to participate in a provincial basketball tournament.

It was the first provincial competition for the newly formed Rangers which includes players in Grades 2 to 4.

The Rangers fought hard during their first two games of the tourney last Saturday.

They played an aggressive team from Scarborough and they were defeated 22-16. In their second game, the Rangers went on to face an experienced team from Sudbury and lost 28-16.

On Sunday, the Rangers rallied back and ran a smooth offense.

They came out on top when they defeated the Blessed Sacrament Yellowjackets 27-9.

The Rangers finished the competition winning the consolation gold medal.

High scorer for the Rangers on the weekend include Olivia Krieger with a total 27 points, Logan Brown with 11 points, and Indy de Groot with eight points. Maddie Caughill scored seven points and Stella Wiens six points, with excellent defensive play from Kalynda Harrington and Felicia Miele. Terrific hustle was shown by Kaityn Wiens and Lexi Buis on the court.

Morgan Cherney showed excellent improvement in her skills during the tourney.

The provincial tournament wraps up the competitive season for the Rangers, who are gearing up for a spring league after Easter.

All girls in Grade 6 and under are welcome to come out for spring league.

There is also a spring league for boys in Grades 1 and 2.

The focus of the league is on playing for fun and helping players to develop their skills on the court. No experience is necessary.

For more information, contact coach Jennifer Caughill at winnersdaycamps@cogeco.ca.

The novice Rangers finished the season with consolation gold, coached by Jennifer Caughill, Jeff Harrington and Briar Krieger.

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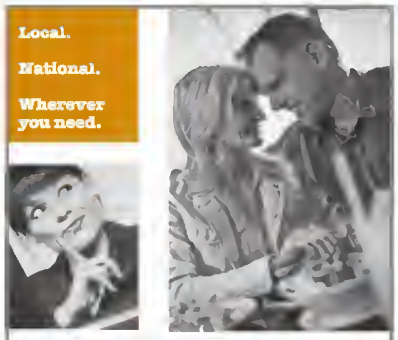

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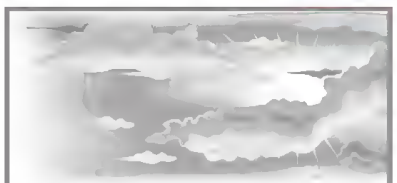

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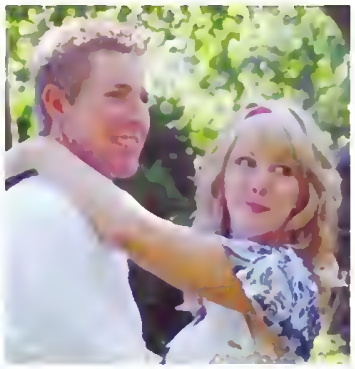

Olivia Fast
&
Josh Hartwig

stag&doe

March 31, 2012, 7 pm - ?
Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre
85 Church Street, St. Catharines
(Parking at Rear)

12535972

When you want to tell that special person just how you feel, send them a rose in print.
Call Classified Extra Announcements
1-866-541-6757

11238823

Thank You Cards

THANK YOU TO the St. Davids Firefighters for their assistance on March 3, 2012. Regina Lockstadt.

12541186

Deaths

CARSON, Annie – Passed away peacefully at the St. Catharines General Hospital on Saturday March 24th, 2012 in her 96th year. Predeceased by her husband David (1974) and her son Albert (1938). Loving mother of Marilyn (Herb) Roebuck, Dennis (Dorothy) Carson, Richard (Linda) and Roger. Dear grandmother of 10 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends at MORGAN FUNERAL HOME, 415 Regent Street, Thursday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. The funeral service will be held in the chapel Friday at 11 a.m. Interment will follow at Niagara Lakeshore Cemetery. In memory of Annie, donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation or a charity of choice would be appreciated. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com.

A Memorial Donation has been made to

Morgan Funeral Homes Community Fund

12538891

Deaths

PATTERSON, Clifford (Pat) — It is with great sadness to announce the passing of Clifford Patterson on Monday, March 19, 2012 at the Niagara-on-the-Lake hospital due to heart failure. Beloved husband of Pearl for 57 years. Loving father to Wayne Patterson (Christina) and Cindy (David). Loving grandfather to Kyle, Jesse, Taylor and Connor. Survived by sister Eileen (Henry) and brother Frank (Norma). Clifford will be lovingly remembered by Melba, Muriel, Lucy and Vivian, plus many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by brothers Elmer and Gordon. Clifford was born on December 25, 1933. He was a retired firefighter, serving with the Toronto Fire Department for 33 years. Clifford was very community-minded. He supported numerous causes and volunteered with various non-profit organizations. The Patterson family would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the medical staff of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital and McMaster University Hospital. Clifford's body was graciously donated to the McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences department for research. A memorial service/celebration of life will held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital.

12541413

In memoriam

Rick Hunse
3 Dec., 1957 - 26 Mar., 2005

You are loved and missed.

-Megz, Stine, Ty, Mick

12538836

The joys that he missed on life's highway.
May he find in God's garden of rest.

Memoriam Verse #24
To remember a loved one with this verse
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We make it Scrapbook worthy!
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or Saturday 9am-3pm
Right over the phone!
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Welcome Little One

11238591

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Removal. 30 yrs.
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Herb, (905)356-4507.

12540379

Coach Judi Boyle-Krzeczkowski celebrates with NOTL Skating Club members Kelly Hunter, Danielle Hunter and Kristen Dortono. The skaters qualified to compete in the provincial championships in North Bay.

Skaters compete provincial competition

Three skaters from the Niagara-on-the-Lake Skating Club celebrated success at regional championships in Waterloo, earning them a place at the provincial championships in North Bay.

Representing the skating club, Kristen Dortono was a double gold medalist, Danielle Hunter, was a double silver medalist and Kelly Hunter was gold medalist going into the provincial competition.

At the Trillium STARSkate provincial championships, Kristen Dortono competed in the Gold Triathlon event and finished first in Interpretive and second in skills and in free skate culminating in an overall first place finish becoming the Gold Triathlon Provincial Champion.

In addition to her championship win, Dortono won the silver medal in the Gold Ladies event.

Kelly Hunter, in the Bronze Triathlon event, finished first in Interpretive, second in skills, and fifth in free skate, earning the provincial silver medal.

Danielle Hunter narrowly missed the bronze medal, by less than a point, in the Gold Ladies event.

In addition to this fourth place, she finished sixth in the Gold Triathlon event in her final provincial championship.

These finishes are a great addition to the gold and silver provincial medals Hunter won last year.

The NOTL Skating Club is winding down their winter season with the annual Showcase Gala at the Meridian Credit Union Arena this Friday at 7 p.m.

This year's show, the Magical Mystery Tour, includes guest skater Michael Karasinski, a local Niagara skater.

Dortono, Danielle Hunter and Kelly Hunter will be featured in Gala along with other skating club members from preschool to adult.

Everyone is invited to come out and support the NOTL Skating Club.

Gala tickets are $5 and they will be available at the door.

BEST BUY - CORRECTION NOTICE
NEWSPAPER RETRACTION FOR THE BEST BUY MARCH 23 CORPORATE FLYER On the March 23 flyer, page 6 and 8, this Geek Squad offer: "Geek Squad PC Setup with Norton 360 Premier" (WebCodes: 10193353/ 10108636/ 10108637) was advertised with an invalid savings. Please be advised the product is still priced at $149, but there is no save claim.
We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

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Best Value Optical
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NOBODY

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• REPAIR
• REMOVE
• DISPOSE
LOW FACTORY PRICE
905.651.5075
(Welland & Niagara Region)

Brick for parking metres
Whoever thought putting parking metres on Queen Street was a good idea? It certainly doesn't encourage people who want to stop for a coffee or a bite to eat. Unfortunately, for every shop that opens another closes. Too sad.

Brick for sneezers
It seems to me that I just get over one cold when I get sick again - it's been that kind of winter. I know we have been taught to cover our face when we cough or sneeze, but kids these days are being shown to cough and sneeze into their elbows. That's a much better idea—I wish more people would start doing that, and maybe we'd all have fewer colds.

GOLD IS HIGH
SELL LOCAL FOR THE HIGHEST DOLLAR PAID
Bridgeburg Jewellers
44 Jarvis Street
Fort Erie
905-994-1561

Bouquet for help with door
A bouquet to the man who stopped and helped us when we were having trouble getting our door locked. It had to be fixed the next day but that got us through the evening.

Bouquet for buses
We were so grateful to the Mole family when they provided a community shuttle for those of us who can no longer drive, or choose not to. Now they've taken on the town's bus service, which isn't perfect, but it's a start. We know we can rely on the Mole family to do a good job.

Brick to employees
A brick to some of my fellow employees who can be rude, and bring their problem into the work environment. I love my job and look forward to going to work, and don't need to have my day spoiled by others. If you're having problems at home, please leave them at home.

Bouquet for cleaning up
I was walking along the recreational path on the Niagara Parkway this week, when I noticed a woman picking up garbage as she walked. This is the time of year when that clean-up is really needed. A bouquet to all those who make our streets and gardens look neat and tidy after the winter.

Bouquet to those who stopped to help
I was stuck on the side of the road with car trouble, waiting for my father to come to pick me up. I have a cell phone and had called for help, but I was surprised and pleased that several people stopped to ask if I needed help. A bouquet to those who took the time to stop to help.

Send your bricks & bouquets to: bricks@niagaraadvance.com or phone: 905–468–3283, ext. 103

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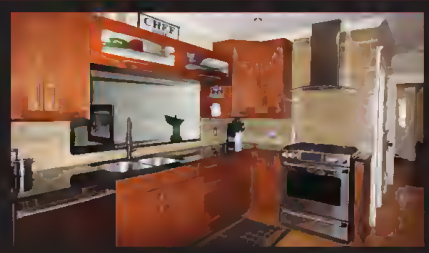
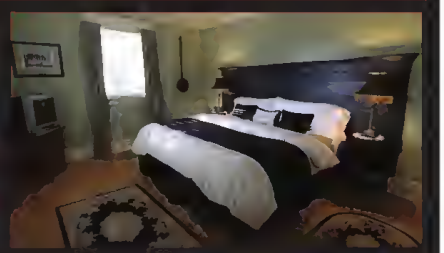
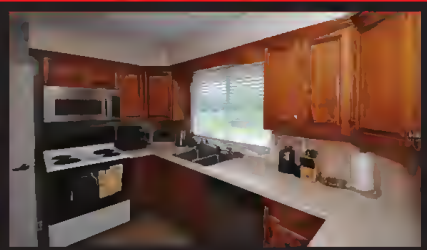
Spectacular bungalow with soaring ceilings, a wonderful plan with high quality finishes only found in a custom home. Foyer leads to formal living room with fireplace, amazing dining room with nearly 2 storey ceiling, casual family room leads in to the kitchen, a homemaker's delight with granite counters and stainless appliances and lots of room for the growing family. The recently built out lower level includes, family room with built-ins, oversize gym, quiet office, cold cellar and lots of storage.

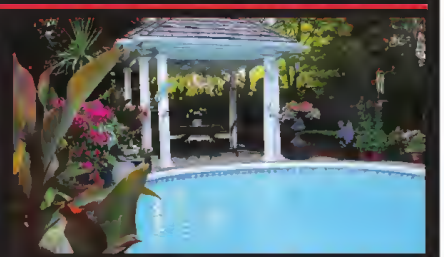
139 Victoria Street $1,095,000

A grande old home in the Old Town, updated throughout with 5 bedrooms and 5 1/2 baths. Home to a very successful B & B 'Aberdeen' with fabulous open concept kitchen/family room, formal living and dining rooms. Third floor master suite is a luxurious retreat with great space and wonderful views!



1265 Creek Rd $339,000

Outstanding country bungalow with room for the whole family plus space for a home occupation. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout the main level. Fully finished lower level featuring large rec room with gas fireplace. The gently rolling 1.37 acre lot is all fenced and there is a hip roof barn ideal for the hobbyist.



310 Tanbark Rd $1,290,000

Wonderful sprawling custom built 3 bedroom bungalow on a fully fenced 1 acre treed lot. The ultimate in privacy, enhanced by automatic security gate and state of the art surveillance system. Featuring an inground pool, expansive perennial gardens, covered patio and stylish pool side pergola.